

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REACTOR MONOLITH LOADING

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for delivering a plurality of reactor monoliths into an interior of a reactor includes providing at least one tubular member having an outer wall defining an interior space adapted to allow sliding movement of reactor monolith therethrough, and providing a plurality of engagement members located within the interior space of the at least one tubular member and spaced along a length thereof, wherein each engagement member is actuatable between an extended position and a retracted position. The at least one tubular member is extended into an interior of a reactor such that a first end of the at least one tubular member is located near an opening in the reactor, and a second end of the at least one tubular member is insert into the interior of the reactor. The plurality of engagement members may be controlled such that each engagement member actuates between the extended position, thereby preventing sliding movement of the monolith through the tube, and the retracted position, thereby allowing the monolith to slide past the engagement member within the tube.